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Week ended March 2, 1904: Sanitary certificate (consular) No. 45, granted to 1 shipment of 3,000 baskets of onions consigned to Manila, P. I., and shipped per Austrian steamship *Franz Ferdinand*. The certificates were on a special form drawn up by the consul, and stated that the onions were grown in Nasik, 100 miles distant from Bombay, in a district free from cholera, and that they were deemed free from infection as far as could be determined.

Sanitary certificate (consular) No. 46, to Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son, regarding the corpse of an American tourist who died in Agra of chronic diarrhea during the previous week. The body was shipped per steamship *Circassia*, to be transshipped in Glasgow to another vessel of the Anchor Line bound for New York. The certificate was on a special form and stated that the individual had died from a non-infectious disease, and that the corpse was suitably encased for shipment.

Arrival of U. S. S. San Francisco en route to Manila.

The U. S. S. *San Francisco*, Captain Very, arrived in Bombay from Beirut on February 28 and sailed for Manila, P. I., via Singapore, on March 6. There had been no cases of infectious disease on board since leaving Beirut, nor were there any occurring during the vessel's stay here. In view of the prevalence of plague and the impossibility of restraining or supervising men after they get ashore, it seemed wisest to the captain not to allow the crew to come ashore at all. No disinfection was therefore needed on the ship.

In compliance with Department letter dated February 9, 1904, which I have the honor to acknowledge, no bills of health were issued, as none were requested by the commanding officer or medical officer.

Health of Bombay—One case of sporadic cholera—Progress of plague.

	Week of—			Average of corresponding week, previous five years.
	Mar. 1, 1904.	Mar. 8, 1904.	Mar. 10, 1903.	
Plague deaths	832	968	1,264	1,035
Mortality rate	55.75	64.60	84.70	30.69
Total deaths	1,420	1,574	1,996	2,264
Mortality rate	95.15	105.47	133.75	148.21
Smallpox deaths	14	19	88	76
Cholera deaths	0	1	0	6

No deaths from typhus. The only death from cholera occurred in an orphanage, and so far as I can determine the case started as one of severe indigestion. No cases had previously occurred in the vicinity, nor has there been a single one since. If true cholera, it must be regarded as a sporadic case. Bombay water is so pure that neither cholera nor typhoid can be ascribed to it, and cases of these diseases must be due to contamination of vegetables or fruits, possibly to the contamination of milk in the dirty dairies which abound in the city.

Progress of plague in Bombay City since January 1, 1904.

	Week of—								
	Jan. 5.	Jan. 12.	Jan. 19.	Jan. 26.	Feb. 2.	Feb. 9.	Feb. 16.	Feb. 23.	Mar. 1.
Attacks.....	153	207	211	270	430	479	602	837	929
Deaths.....	125	186	180	231	384	419	550	718	832
Percentage of deaths in attacked.....	81.7	89.8	89.5	85.5	89.3	87.4	91.3	85.7	89.5
Rate of plague mortality...	8.37	12.46	12.66	15.47	25.73	28.07	36.85	48.11	55.75

Two facts become evident in the above table. One is that the increase in plague mortality has been steady, although rapid, there being no sudden jumps, except perhaps from January 26 to February 2, relatively considered. The other fact is the high mortality in those attacked, the proportion for the nine weeks recorded averaging 87.74 per cent. From the daily plague mortality of the week now in progress, I am inclined to believe that the city as a whole has reached the height of the epidemic, although the wave is progressing northward in the city, as indicated in the diagrams forwarded last week. In a few weeks more the fact of this north-moving wave will doubtless become still more evident.

In spite of the increasing plague mortality in Bombay city, the Bombay Presidency record is better each month after October, as you will see from the following table commencing September, 1903. The decrease commenced after October, 1903.

Bombay presidency.

	Cases.	Deaths.
September, 1903.....	50,057	36,105
October, 1903.....	66,437	49,335
November, 1903.....	54,709	41,659
December, 1903.....	42,433	32,329
January, 1904.....	38,097	28,701

February, 1904, showed a steady rise, week by week, in the number of plague deaths in all India, as the following table will show:

Plague in all India.

	Attacks.	Deaths.
Week of—		
Feb. 6.....	29,151	24,204
Feb. 13.....	30,687	25,629
Feb. 20.....	32,275	26,537
Feb. 27.....	34,086	27,858
Total.....	126,199	104,228

Reports from Calcutta—Inspection of vessel—Fumigation.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Sprague reports, March 10, as follows:

During the week ended March 5, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Maristow*, bound for New York, with a total crew of 34, of